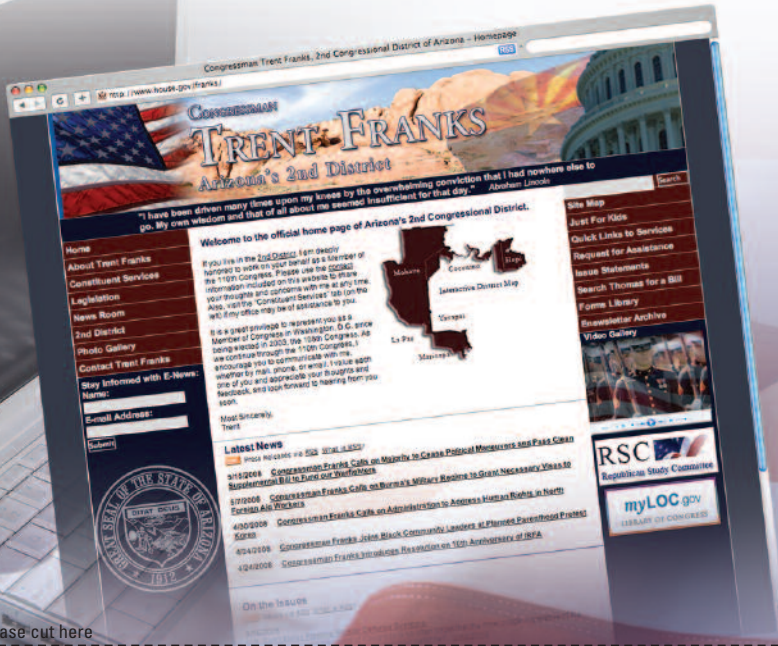


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Pre Sorted Standard



For information on the latest news from  
Congressman Franks or to sign up for  
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[www.house.gov/franks](http://www.house.gov/franks)

Please return this survey in an envelope addressed to:

**Congressman Trent Franks**  
**7121 West Bell Road**  
**Suite 200**  
**Glendale, AZ 85308**



Congressman  
**Trent Franks**



**110th Congress**  
**UPDATE**

Dear Friend,

Memorial Day was a reminder of all that has made America the noblest and freest nation on the face of the earth, and an opportunity for each of us to honor the lives and courage of those valiant men and women in uniform who have made and continue to make unspeakable sacrifices so that you and I might live in the sunlight of freedom.

America continues to face unprecedented challenges, but I continue to believe that the strength, resilience, and ingenuity of a free people are equal to all of them.

I hope you will take a moment to read the following update about how some of these issues are being addressed in Congress, and to fill out the attached survey to share your thoughts and opinions about them with me. Your feedback is a critical part of helping me to fulfill the tremendous responsibility and privilege of representing you in the United States Congress.

I also hope that as we enter into the long days of summer, you will feel free to contact my office should you ever need assistance.

Very sincerely,



Congressman Trent Franks

**How to Contact  
Congressman Franks**

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1237 Longworth  
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**Where do you stand on the issues?**

Your input is important to me. Please take a moment to complete the survey inside, place in a stamped envelope and mail back to my office. Thank you.



# Legislative Priorities in the 110th Congress

## Lowining Gas Prices, Decreasing Our Dependence on Foreign Oil

Our need to reduce our dependence on foreign sources of oil and energy has been made painfully evident in recent months with record-breaking crude oil prices, the resulting spike in gas prices, and America's continued reliance on energy supplies from unfriendly or unstable regions of the world. While I absolutely believe that we must continue to pursue cleaner alternative energy sources, it is also critical, now more than ever, to unlock America's vast supplies of domestic energy in order to provide for our growing energy needs while reducing our dependence on foreign oil and preventing critical energy shortages in the future.

Over the past two decades, numerous bills and initiatives have come before Congress to unlock the more than 10.4 billion barrels of oil in ANWR, and to strike the current moratoria on oil and gas exploration along the Outer Continental Shelf (estimated to contain 85.9 billion barrels of oil along with 420 trillion cubic feet of natural gas). These efforts have been opposed largely on the grounds of environmental damage that would occur under such exploration. However, 21st century arctic technology, including 3-dimensional (3-D) seismic technology that enables exploration while protecting sensitive environments, continues to meet and exceed environmental and safety challenges.

## Domestic Energy Initiatives Supported by Congressman Franks

**ANWR:** In 1980, Congress and President Carter created the nearly 20 million acre Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), but set aside a portion of ANWR's northern coastal plain for the purpose of future energy exploration and development. Energy exploration would be limited to just 2,000 acres, the equivalent of only 0.01% of ANWR's total acreage.

✓ According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), the mean estimate of recoverable oil in ANWR is 10.4 billion barrels.

✓ That's more than twice the proven oil reserves in all of Texas.

✓ That's almost half of the total U.S. proven reserves of 21 billion barrels.

✓ That represents a possible 50 percent increase in total U.S. proven reserves.

✓ EIA also estimates daily ANWR would provide 1 million barrels per day for 30 years.

✓ ANWR energy production would also create as many as 1 million new jobs for Americans in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

**Oil Shale, Tar Sands, Heavy Oil, and Coal-to-Liquids:** Petroleum is no longer just available from traditional reservoirs. It can be extracted from shale and other formations which are abundant throughout North America. Some observers have described the United States as the Saudi Arabia of oil shale, with about 1.8 trillion barrels of oil recoverable from U.S. shale. Tar sands are also plentiful, with 11 billion recoverable barrels in the U.S. and far more in our ally to the north—Canada. Additionally, there are nearly 100 billion barrels of heavy oil (a thicker crude oil) in the U.S., and America's voluminous coal resources could allow coal-to-liquid production (making diesel and jet fuels from gasified coal) without affecting the coal supply for electricity.

**Expanding our Refineries:** Oil refineries are critical to the production of gasoline from crude oil. Yet no new refineries have been built in America since 1978. I continue to support legislation such as H.R. 2471, the Refinery Streamlined Permitting Act of 2007, which would make it easier for the private sector to expand capacity at existing petroleum refineries, or to build entirely new ones. We must remove as many impediments to increased refining and production as possible.

**OCS:** There have also been repeated proposals, for which I have and will continue to advocate, to expand deep sea energy exploration and extraction on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS)--the lands under the waters surrounding the United States-- most of which are statutorily off limits to energy development. Indications are that such expansion could yield 86 billion barrels of oil.

**End Pork-Barrel Spending:** The process of 'earmarks' in Washington has sadly spiraled out of control, resulting in "Bridges to Nowhere" and "Monuments to Me." Often such earmarks are "airdropped" into bills and never receive any kind of separate vote or scrutiny. In an effort to curb such unnecessary and wasteful spending, I joined with other fiscally conservative Members of Congress to declare an immediate earmark moratorium and pledge to reform the system. We also pledged to uphold any future veto of a spending bill that is pork laden and does not lead to a balanced budget.

**Limiting Washington Taxes and Spending:** In an effort to protect hard-working American families, Congress must take action to eliminate the Alternative Minimum Tax and prevent the scheduled tax increases in 2010 from taking more from hard-earned paychecks. I am also supporting an initiative to amend the U.S. Constitution to prevent the growth of federal spending beyond the growth of the middle class American family budget.

**Addressing America's Housing Crunch:** Reform and transparency must be the first priority in any efforts to stabilize the housing market. To that end, H.R. 5857, the Homeownership Protection and Housing Market Stabilization Act of 2008, was introduced in April. This bill breaks the logjam on bipartisan reforms that will help homeowners right now. Federal Housing Administration (FHA) reform, modernization of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and additional funding for housing counseling are among the central planks of this legislation.

## A Family-Focused, Patient-Centered Health Care System:

Patient-centered, competitive health care results in higher quality care, lower prices, and greater individual dignity, control and satisfaction. Important steps must be taken to advance such policies, including 1) providing a health care tax credit to every American to purchase affordable health care coverage that best suits their needs, and 2) broadening the array of choices for health insurance plans, by allowing individuals to purchase more competitive plans available in other states. These measures will allow Americans who like their current health plan to keep it, while encouraging all individuals to own and control a personal and portable health insurance policy.

## Allowing our Intelligence Community to Help Prevent Terrorist Attacks:

While terrorists remain committed to orchestrating attacks on American soil, Memorial Day marked the 100th day since the Congress allowed the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) to expire. I have strongly advocated for modernizing our outdated intelligence laws to empower our intelligence agencies to intercept terrorist communications outside of the United States without the unprecedented and lengthy court order process that would jeopardize our ability to anticipate and thwart an attack.

## Supporting Our Troops by Passing a Clean Troop Funding Bill:

Our noble men and women fighting in harm's way deserve the unequivocal support of Congress by passing a clean, earmark-free troop funding bill that does not micromanage our commanders on the ground or telegraph a withdrawal plan to the enemy.

Please cut here

**Do you support opening American resources such as ANWR and OCS to increase our domestic production of energy and oil?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure Notes \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you support a moratorium on "pork-barrel" spending to reduce government waste and reform the earmark process?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure Notes \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you support a clean troop funding bill with no extraneous or pork-barrel spending?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure Notes \_\_\_\_\_

**Other notes or comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Would you be interested in receiving e-mail updates on current issues in Congress?**

☐ Yes ☐ No Email \_\_\_\_\_